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Promotion and protection of all human rights, civil, political, economic, social and cultural rights, including the right to development

Written statement* submitted by the Society Studies Centre (MADA ssc), a non-governmental organization in special consultative status

The Secretary-General has received the following written statement which is circulated in accordance with Economic and Social Council resolution 1996/31.

[14 February 2016]

* This written statement is issued, unedited, in the language(s) received from the submitting non-governmental organization(s).

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The Negative Impacts of Unilateral Coercive measures on the enjoyment of the International Covenants 1966

The Society Studies Centre (SSCmada) seizes the opportunity of the fiftieth anniversary of the two covenants adopted in 1966 i.e. the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights (ICCPR) and the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights (ICESCR), to express its deep concern on the escalation of the big challenges which are still hindering and restricting enjoying the rights included in the two covenants.

On top of those challenges is the continuation of imposing and annual renewal of the unilateral coercive measures (sanctions) practiced by some nations against other nation through executive directives and legislations. More worrying is the expansion in imposing those measures against a country through including other states which support the imposing state, a matter that makes those sanctions comprehensive to be practices by several states. This is clear in the case of Sudan as the sanctions are imposed on it since the early ninetieth of last century as are renewed annually, while dealing with the communities' requirements should adapt human resolutions to contribute in its capacity-building to enable it meet its demands in development and not through imposing more sanctions.

The right to development guarantees benefiting from the natural resources and eliminating poverty and hunger, and this could not be achieved unless the obstacles are removed. The biggest obstacle is the continuation of imposing those measures. The sanctions affected directly on enjoying the economic, social and political rights besides the right to development which are included in the two International Covenants. It affected the development, economic and social infrastructure and that is clear in the lack of sufficient resources to meet those rights a matter that leads to the increase of unemployment and inflation rates.

Sudan was forbidden from benefiting from the finance and assistance of the international funds or dealing with the international industrial companies. The sanctions also deprived Sudan from benefiting from the technology in all aspects and that affected negatively on the Sudanese industries.

To sum it up we can determine the negative impacts in the following:

1. The limitation of Sudan ability to deal internationally freely and without restrictions or conditions a matter that reduces the margin of moves and also reduces the available options in general.
2. Depriving of international funding from the international monitory funds and other international financial institutions.
3. Crippling Sudan's ability to benefit from the Heavily indebted countries initiative or restructuring the debts with the international debtors.
4. Limitation the possibility of benefiting from the latest technology in developing the Sudanese economic sectors especially transportation, agricultural, health, oil and information technology sectors.
5. Banning the international banks and institutions and intimidating those institutions from entering into financial transactions with the Sudanese banking system.
6. Putting more burdens on the Sudanese working abroad in making their personal financial transactions with the Sudanese banks.

The Society Studies Centre would like to express its appreciation to the efforts and measures taken by the Human Rights Council in the recent few years against the unilateral coercive measures , especially the efforts of the HRC Advisory committee on the impact of the unilateral coercive measures on human rights , in regard to the negative impacts on fundamental rights and rights to development.

The Society Studies Centre strongly support the outcome of those sessions as it considered the said measures as violation to the international law and the international human rights law and could be condemned by the General Assembly. We also laud the decision that condemned those coercive measures and stipulated appointing a special rapportuer to monitor the negative impact of the unilateral coercive measures on human rights.

The Centre would like to draw the attention of the High Level Committee of the fiftieth anniversary of the two covenants to consider that the negative impacts of the unilateral coercive measures represent the biggest obstacle for enjoying the rights included in the two covenants.

In this regard we call for:

First: Preparing an international convention that bans the unilateral coercive measures and banning the stats to impose unilateral sanctions that negatively affects the developmental activities and weakens the capabilities of active and important sectors. The convention should stipulate the establishment of an international mechanism to follow-up the implementation of the convention and take the necessary measures to end such sanctions.

Second: We Recommends extending the mandate of the UN Special Rapporteur to monitor the negative impacts of the unilateral and coercive measures and to subject the end of the mandate to the end of practicing those unilateral and coercive measures.
Third: Urging the international community to boost, encourage and support the developing sates in peace building and development to upgrade the aspirations of its people through enjoying their complete rights, besides compensating the victims of those sanctions.
Last: We urge the Human Rights Council and the peace loving nations to endeavour to bring an end to those unfair sanction against the Sudanese nations which threatens its development prosperity.